GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:70
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2016
Restorative Works at Ancient Monuments
Senguttuvan Shri Balasubramaniam

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the processes of restoration of the Taj Mahal to its pristine glory are in progress as per the established norms for restoration of ancient and heritage monuments;

(b) whether wooden and iron scaffoldings used at the Taj Mahal for the restorative works are permitted under the rules in vogue for restoration of heritage monuments;

(c) whether the pinnacle a top one of the minarets around the mausoleum of the Taj Mahal was displaced, fell to the ground and got damaged during the restorative works in progress and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the fall of the pinnacle was attributable to any human negligence and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the proactive steps taken by the Government during the restorative works at the Taj Mahal?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
AND MINISTER OF STATE, CIVIL AVIATION

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) Yes Madam. The conservation works of Taj Mahal is attended regularly as per the site requirements following the established norms and guidelines for conservation of heritage monuments.

(b) Yes Madam. It is permitted.

(c) to (e) No Madam. The pinnacle of one minaret got displaced and yielded on the scaffolding planks. After essential mending work it has been restored to its original position. All necessary arrangements for safety and security of the monument during restorative works are continuously in position.